

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; and claims 1 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended. Applicants believe that the rejections have been overcome or are improper in view of the amendments and for the reasons set forth below.

With respect to the rejection of claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, the Patent Office alleges that the claimed subject matter fails to comply with the enablement requirement. Applicants believe that this rejection is improper.

Of the pending claims at issue, claims 1 and 11 are the sole independent claims. Claim 1 relates to a picture generating apparatus. As amended, claim 1 recites, in part, correlation detecting means for comparing, with each other, on an epipolar line on the image picked-up by each of the image pick-up means determined by connecting correspondence points of line of sight connecting an observation point n_b and the object to be imaged and line of sight connecting position of each of the image pick-up means and the object to be imaged. Claim 11 relates to a picture generating method. Claim 11 recites, in part, comparing, with each other, on an epipolar line on the image picked-up by each of the image pick-up means determined by connecting correspondence points of line of sight connecting an observation point n_b and the object to be imaged and line of sight connecting position of each of the imaged pick-up means and the object to be imaged. The amendments to claims 1 and 11 are supported in the specification, for example, on page 13 at lines 5-8. Applicants note for the record that the changes to claims 1 and 11 were made for clarification purposes, and thus, should not be deemed to narrow and/or disclaim any claimed subject matter in view of same. Therefore, Applicants believe that the subject matter as defined by claims 1-18 complies with the requirements pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The Patent Office alleges that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the claim limitation "the image pick-up means" in both of claims 1 and 11. In response, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 11 have been amended to address this issue. Applicants

further note that the changes to claims 1 and 11 were made for clarification purposes, and thus, should not be deemed to narrow and/or disclaim any claimed subject matter in view of same.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit reconsideration of same.

Respectfully submitted,

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